

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

Please cancel claim 13. Please amend claims 12 and 14 and add new claims 15 and 16. A clean version of claims 12 and 14 is offered below and a marked-up version showing the changes is attached.

12. (Amended) A thermoformable nonwoven fabric composed of filaments of a biodegradable polymer, wherein

the biodegradable polymer is selected from the group consisting of poly-D-lactic acid, poly-L-lactic acid, copolymers of D-lactic acid and L-lactic acid in which the copolymerization molar ratio of either one of D-lactic acid and L-lactic acid is 90% or more and that of the other is 10% or less, and blends of any of these polymers,

the nonwoven fabric is a spun bonded nonwoven fabric,

the filaments have a polymer supercool index of 0.3 to 0.6,

the filaments have a birefringence of 3×10^{-3} to 15×10^{-3} ,

the filaments have a polymer crystalline size of 15 to 20 Å as measured axially

thereof; and

the nonwoven fabric has a boiling water shrinkage percentage of 10 to 40%.

14. (Amended) A nonwoven fabric as set forth in claim 12, wherein the polymer contains a nucleating agent.

15. (New) A product produced by a process comprising the step of thermoforming a nonwoven fabric according to claim 12.

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16. (New) A product as set forth in claim 15, wherein the nonwoven fabric of the thermoformed product has a boiling water shrinkage percentage of 3.9 to 6.2%.
